

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) An electro-optical device, comprising:

an electro-optical substance;

a pair of substrates holding the electro-optical substance; and

pole-like spacers provided on at least one substrate of the pair of substrates, on a to-be-provided surface of the at least one substrate facing the electro-optical substance, each pole-like spacer having an elongated sectional shape including a rounded ~~initial contact surface~~~~head end portion~~ and ~~separation surface~~~~rear end portion~~ in a direction of elongation, and at roots thereof, a slope portion with a surface connecting to the to-be-provided surface of the at least one substrate.

2. (Previously Presented) The electro-optical device according to claim 1, further including an orientation film formed on the to-be-provided surface of the at least one substrate, the pole-like spacers having an elliptic shape in cross-section on a plane in parallel with the to-be-provided surface, and a long diameter of the elliptic shape extending in a direction in agreement with a direction in which the orientation film is rubbed.

3. (Currently Amended) An electro-optical device, comprising:

an electro-optical substance;

a pair of substrates holding the electro-optical substance;

pole-like spacers provided on at least one substrate of the pair of substrates, on a to-be-provided surface of the at least one substrate facing the electro-optical substance, each pole-like spacer having an elliptic-shaped cross-section including a rounded ~~initial contact surface~~~~head end portion~~ and ~~separation surface~~~~rear end portion~~ in a direction of a major axis

of the elliptic-shaped cross-section, and at roots thereof, a slope portion with a surface connecting to the to-be-provided surface of the at least one substrate; and
an orientation film formed on the to-be-provided surface of the at least one substrate, the orientation film being rubbed in the direction of the major axis of the elliptic-shaped cross-section.

4. (Original) The electro-optical device according to claim 1, the slope portion being formed on an entire outer circumference of the pole-like spacers.

5. (Original) The electro-optical device according to claim 1, the pole-like spacers having a maximum area of sectional shape on a plane in parallel with the to-be-provided surface and in contact with the to-be-provided surface, and the area decreasing as it extends from the to-be-provided surface.

6. (Original) The electro-optical device according to claim 1, the pole-like spacers having at least one of a semi-spherical shape and a semi-elliptic spherical shape.

7. (Currently Amended) The electro-optical device according to claim 1, a top head end of the pole-like spacers including a flat surface.

8. (Original) The electro-optical device according to claim 1, further including:
a first striped wiring formed on the at least one substrate;
a second striped wiring formed on the at least one substrate or the other substrate, and extending in a direction that intersects the first striped wiring;
switching elements and pixel electrodes formed corresponding to regions where the second striped wiring and the first striped wiring intersect each other; and
a light-shielding film formed on the at least one substrate or the other substrate at a position corresponding to a position where the first striped wiring and the second striped wiring are formed;
the pole-like spacers being arranged within a width of the light-shielding film.

9. (Original) The electro-optical device according to claim 1, further including:
 - a first striped electrode formed on the at least one substrate;
 - a second striped electrode formed on the other substrate, and extending in a direction that intersects the first striped electrode; and
 - a light-shielding film formed on the at least one substrate or the other substrate except regions where the first striped electrode and the second striped electrode intersect each other;
 - the pole-like spacers being arranged within a width of the light-shielding film.
10. (Original) An electronic equipment, comprising:
 - the electro-optical device according to claim 1.
11. (Canceled)
12. (Previously Presented) An electro-optical device comprising:
 - a TFT array substrate;
 - a counter substrate;
 - pixel electrodes formed on the TFT array substrate;
 - a counter electrode formed on the counter substrate;
 - an electro-optical substance held between the TFT array substrate and the counter substrate; and
 - a light-shielding film formed between the counter substrate and the counter electrode, the light-shielding film including pole-like spacers arranged along gaps among the pixel electrodes.